

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended): An address translator comprising:
an interface connected to a plurality of communication networks including at least a first communication network connected to a first host, and a second communication network connected to a second host; and
a table for translating addresses used in said first communication network and addresses used in said second communication network,
wherein the table includes a plurality of translation rules for each address used in said first communication network and each address used in said second communication network, and
wherein said ~~translation~~ table contains a discriminator for each address to ~~judge~~ determine whether said address is a native address actually given to said first host or said second host or not a virtual address for address translation temporarily given to said first host or said second host, the discriminator being given dynamically to each translation rule.

2. (currently amended): An address translator comprising:
an interface connected to a plurality of communication networks including at least a first communication network connected to a first host, and a second communication network connected to a second host;
a memory storing each address used in said first communication network,

each address used in said second communication network, a plurality of translation rules for each address used in said first communication network, and a plurality of translation rules for each address used in said second communication network, and a discriminator for each address to judge/determine whether said address is the a native address or not of actually given to said first host or said second host or a virtual address translation temporarily given to said first host or said second host, the discriminator being given dynamically to each translation rule; and

a controller for executing translation of ~~the~~ each address of said first communication network and each address of said second communication network.

3. (currently amended): The address translator according to claim 1, wherein ~~the an address translation rule of the address used in said first communication network and the address used in said second communication network and said a corresponding discriminator are recorded in said table, if the address translation rule is not recorded~~ when said address translation is executed.

4. (currently amended): The address translator according to claim 2, wherein said controller records, to said memory, ~~said an address translation rule of the address used in said first communication network and the address used in said second communication network and said a corresponding discriminator, if the address translation rule is not recorded~~ when said address translation is executed.

5. (currently amended): The address translator according to claim 1, further comprising:
a memory for storing said table.

6. (currently amended): The address translator according to claim 3,
further comprising:

a means for receiving setting instructions for said address translation rule
from said first host or said second host.

7. (currently amended): The address translator according to claim 4,
further comprising:

a means for inputting said address translation rule; and
a means for receiving setting instructions of said address translation rule from
said first host or said second host.

8. (currently amended): The address translator according to claim 1,
further comprising:

a console unit which displays said table.

9. (currently amended): The address translator according to claim 2,
further comprising:

a console unit which displays contents of said memory.

10. (currently amended): A method for translating addresses comprising
the steps of:

receiving packets transmitted from a first host via a first communication
network;

translating said packets expressed with the a protocol of said first

communication network into ~~the~~ a protocol of a second communication network connected with second hosts generating an address translation rule for translation of said protocol; and

registering a discriminator for discriminating whether the address of said protocol is actually granted to said first host or said second host or is a virtual address for address translation temporarily given to said first host or said second host, and registering said address translation rule to ~~the~~ an address translation table.

11. (currently amended): A method for translating addresses comprising the steps of:

receiving packets transmitted from hosts via ~~the~~ a transmission source communication network; and

translating said packets expressed with ~~the~~ a protocol of said transmission source communication network to ~~the~~ a protocol of ~~the~~ a transmission destination communication network of said packets, ~~wherein~~

wherein said step of translating said protocol further ~~comprising~~ comprises the steps of:

searching an address translation rule between an address in a received packet and the an address used in said transmission destination communication network by referring to ~~said~~ an address translation table; and

~~judging~~ determining whether ~~the~~ a transmission source address of ~~said~~ a received packet is actually granted to said host or not by referring to a discriminator indicating whether said address in the address translation rule is a native address actually given to said host in the transmission source communication network or a virtual address for address translation temporarily given to said host in the

transmission source communication network.

12. (currently amended): The method of translating addresses according to claim 11, further comprising a step of:
discarding said received packet if the source address of said received packet is not actually granted to said host.

13. (currently amended): The method for translating addresses according to claim 12, further comprising a step of:
notifying that said received packet has been discarded to said transmission source communication network.

14. (currently amended): The method for translating addresses according to claim 11, further comprising a step of:
assigning the address used in said transmission destination communication network if it is proved as a result of said search that the address used in said transmission destination communication network is not yet assigned to said host.

15. (currently amended): The method for translating addresses according to claim 14, further comprising the step of:
recording the transmission source address of said packet, said assigned address, and the discriminator suggesting that said assigned address is a temporary address to said address translation table.

16. (original): The method for translating addresses according to claim 15,

wherein the newly received packet is discarded when the packet having said assigned temporary address which is set as the destination address through said translation of protocol is newly received.

17. (currently amended): The method for translating addresses according to claim 11, wherein said translation of protocol is executed in the timing that setting instructions of address translation rule from said host are generated.

18. (currently amended): The method for translating addresses according to claim 14, comprising the steps of:

receiving a request inquiring said destination address used in the transmission destination communication network from said transmission source communication network by designating the name of destination of the packet;

transferring said inquiry request to a server storing the corresponding relationship between said address and name; and

receiving a response to said inquiry request from said server, ~~whereby~~
wherein said temporary address is ~~assigned~~, assigned upon reception of said response from said server.

19. (currently amended): The method for translating addresses according to claim 18, further comprising a step of:

registering the discriminator suggesting that said assigned address is the temporary address to said address translation table.

20. (currently amended): The method for translating addresses according

to claim 15, wherein occurrence of a fault is notified to said transmission source and transmission destination communication network when the address corresponding to the discriminator suggesting said temporary address is the native address of the host registered to said transmission source communication network or said transmission destination communication network.

21. (original): The method for translating addresses according to claim 18, wherein occurrence of a fault is notified to said transmission source communication network when the discriminator suggesting that the address notified with the response from said server is the temporary address is registered.